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Title: Request to protect the interest of tribal people living in Periyakulam Constituency by way of extending social security measures.

SHRI J.M. AARON RASHID (PARIYAKULAM): Akamalai, Melmalai, Highway mists, Kodaikanal Keelmalai are some of the places in my constituency where greatly deprived sections of the society, the poorest of poor tribal people live in pitiable conditions. These tribes living in the forest area are not having a fixed occupation to carry on their livelihood. Non-availability of employment opportunities result in deprivation and their children go without education even primary education. Children, especially girl child are exploited. Scheduled Tribe people living in the interior forests must have protection. Tamil Nadu Government has provided them with TV sets. Union Government must help the State Government to provide these hopeless people job opportunities. Government of Tamil Nadu is giving them rice at a reduced price. But they need buying power. Under the 'Sarva Siksha Abhiyan' their children must get facilities for primary education. Such meek, simple, dozile people must get protection and education. They must have education at least upto eighth class and even single teacher schools would suffice for now. They gather the forest products and they must be allowed to sell them under the supervision of forest officials. They are illiterate and are exploited. Providing them with social security is the responsibility of the Centre as they live in Central forests. They do not have electricity. Single point electricity connections can be provided to their dwelling units and Centre must allow the State authorities to carry on this. Their children must have hostel facilities and protection. They must have access to modern society and must be aware of social happenings elsewhere. They must have

*English translation of the speech originally delivered in Tamil.

vocational education training and must get job opportunities in police force by way of giving them education upto plus two level so that they may be helped to become socially useful and really protected. I urge upon the Union Government to protect the interests of tribal people living in my constituency by way of extending further social security measures.